

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY S/S-O:SESTEINER:WLT

APPROVED BY S/S-O:SESTEINER

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O 171655Z SEP 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 230719 TOSEC 270283

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT ATHENS 9954 ACTION SECSTATE 17 SEP 76

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 9954

EXDIS

PLEASE PASS USDEL SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECVISIT: POSSIBLE ATHENS STOP

1. WHEN I MET EARLIER THIS AFTERNOON WITH FOREIGN
MINISTER BITSIOS (SEPTELS) I TOLD HIM THAT THE SECRETARY'S
TENTATIVE ITINERARY PROVIDED FOR A REFUELING STOP AT
SOUDA BAY, CRETE SOMETIME THURSDAY AFTERNOON OR
EVENING, SEPTEMBER 23, IF THAT WERE AGREEABLE TO THE
GOG. BITSIOS SAID THAT THE REFUELING STOP WAS ENTIRELY
AGREEABLE AND THAT HE WOULD ASK AMBASSADOR JOHN TZOUNIS,
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY,
TO GO TO SOUDA AND BE AVAILABLE TO SEE THE SECRETARY
IF HE DESIRES DURING HIS STOPOVER. BITSIOS SAID THAT
HE WOULD BE UNABLE TO GO TO CRETE HIMSELF AS HE WOULD BE
INVOLVED IN LAST MINUTE PREPARATIONS FOR HIS DEPARTURE EARLY
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THE NEXT MORNING FOR NEW YORK AND HIS POSSIBLE WEEKEND

MEETINGS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL.

2. BITSIOS ASKED ME TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH TZOUNIS
ON THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE REFUELING STOP AND FOR
ANY OTHER ASSISTANCE WE MIGHT REQUIRE.

KUBISCH

UNQUOTE. ROBINSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE230719
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:SESTEINER:WLT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760351-1169
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760947/aaaabobp.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 MAY 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECVISIT: POSSIBLE ATHENS STOP
TAGS: OVIP, US, GR, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006